

Hawaii MARINE

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Above the rest



Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Sgt. Pettal Black, base food service NCO, Headquarters Battalion, watches the ground as she descends from 60 feet on the fast rope. Schofield Barracks hosted the training event Sept. 30 as part of the battalion's goal to increase combat readiness. See A-3 for the story.



Lance Cpl. Bernadette L. Ainsworth

The Blue Angels line up their jets on the flight line here with just as much precision as the stunts they perform. The Blue Angels will perform with many other acts at this weekend's air shows. The gates will open at 10 a.m. and the show will begin at 11:45 a.m. both Saturday and Sunday. Gates also open at 10 a.m. for today's Military Appreciation Day.

Angels arrive

**Lance Cpl.
Bernadette L. Ainsworth**
Marine Forces Pacific

MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII, KANEOHE BAY, Hawaii — The Navy's precision flying team, the Blue Angels, arrived here Tuesday for the "Blues on the Bay" Air Show.

The F/A-18 Hornet pilots are in town to perform at this weekend's free Kaneohe Bay Marine Corps-Navy Air Show Saturday and Sunday. The Military Appreciation Day show will be held today. Gates open at 10 a.m.

The Navy pilots made a grand entrance, flying over the flight line in formation and breaking formation over hangar 105 to take turns landing.

Although the Blue Angels' per-

formance will be the most anticipated, other aviators will also entertain the public.

Both civilian and military aviators will take to the skies during the show. Patty Wagstaff, an acrobatic flier inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame, will be among the performers, as well as Eric Beard and Greg Poe. Local daredevils, Hank Bruckner and Clint Churchill, will also be performing for the crowd.

Along with aircraft performances, Marines and Sailors will perform a skydiving exhibition, in which they will demonstrate combat training skills.

Aircraft on display will include F-15 Eagle, F-16 Fighting Falcon and F/A-18D Hornet; CH-53D Sea

See ANGELS, A-7



Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

Lance Cpl. Christopher Cherry, military police department Fleet Assistance Program, waves a person through the gate after conducting an identification check.

FAPs man the gates

Cpl. Megan L. Stiner
Combat Correspondent

(Part four of a four-part series.)

The training is complete, the practical application is finished and the final stage is set. Fleet Assistance Program Marines refine their newly learned skills as they guard the entrances to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

"May I see your ID, please?" asks the gate sentry. Once identification is shown the personnel are waved through with a welcoming phrase such as "Thank you. Have a good day."

Monotonous sentences the new gate guards now utter hundreds of times a day. Some would say being on the gate

under the hot sun is better than spending all day in the field. Others would rather be anywhere in the world. Either way, these Marines are now the primary source of security in charge of who comes aboard the installation.

Lance Cpl. Christopher J. Cherry, Military Police Department FAP from Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, said, "I believe it is really one of the most important jobs on this base."

The two weeks of training already received in the pre service program prepared the FAPs for their new duties, to a certain extent. But now they are realiz-

See FAPS, A-7

AirUSA brings it on

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Sports Editor

Every unit has to train to stay at the "top of its game." Infantry needs to fight, pilots need to fly and air intercept controllers need to watch the skies. But training costs money, and that can sometimes be in short supply.

Due to budget constraints, Naval Air Systems Command retired a number of aggressor squadrons from the fleet, and was tasked to find an alternate source to simulate enemy aircraft and provide aggressor-type services.

Since the fleet at Pearl Harbor still needed to fulfill training objectives and exercise air intercept controllers, Naval Pacific Fleet signed a five-year contract with NAVAIR, a private corporation that provides aircraft to act as hostile aggressors for naval air exercises.

To fulfill NAVAIR's contract, AirUSA provided two L-39 Albatross aircraft, permanently stationed at Hangar 3, to Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, aboard the Marine Corps Air Facility

here.

According to Jed Comerford, the AirUSA director of operations for Hawaii and Japan, the L-39 Albatross doesn't have the fuel capacity for a flight from California to Hawaii. So, AirUSA sent one aircraft aboard a C-130, and had the second aircraft broken up into three sections, crated, and shipped.

"We will fly out to various military warning areas to test Pearl Harbor's air intercept controllers," said Comerford. "Their job will be to pick us up on radar and vector us in. We will also be running attack profiles against ships and fighter profiles against one another. Our company will fulfill any type of air defense training requirements."

According to Comerford, all the pilots who fly with AirUSA are retired or former military tactical aircraft pilots.

The Albatross will begin flight operations in support of the Surface Group Middle Pacific, Pearl Harbor Naval Station, on Tuesday.

Like its motto says, AirUSA is "bringing the enemy to you."



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Mike McCabe, a maintainer for AirUSA, refuels the L-39 Albatross in preparation for a test flight.

Base motor pool goes civilian

Sgt. Jereme L. Edwards
Press Chief

The base motor pool here began a transformation to become a completely civilian-run operation Oct. 1.

"There was what they call an A76 Study done in 2000. The results of that study came out in 2002, and based on those results the recommendation was to remove all the military personnel down here and to contract it to civil-

ians," explained Master Gunnery Sgt. Tulua Aivao, staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge of Base Motor Pool. "I've been here almost three years now. I started out with 22 Marines, and now I have 13 and they are doing a lot of work, everything from administrative paperwork for the numerous vehicles under our control, to cleaning and maintaining all the vehicles, issuing and testing for government licenses and compiling the information for the vehi-

cle mileage report. Now the plan is to hire six civilians to do all the things that it takes 13 Marines to do."

Aivao said, with this change from Marine to civilian-run motor pool, a lot of the services the Marines provide to the base and tenant units here are going to be affected.

"There is going to be a large impact on the base and tenant units here when

See MOTOR, A-7

NEWS BRIEFS

Liberty Bus Schedule Change

The Liberty Bus will not run today or tomorrow due to the Blues on the Bay Air Show. The regular bus schedule will resume Oct. 15.

Post Office Closure

The MCBH Post Office will be closed Saturday through Monday in observance of Columbus Day. The office will reopen 8 a.m. Tuesday. The Post Offices in Kailua and Kaneohe will be open for Saturday service, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. If you have questions please call the Base Post Office at 257-2008.

Recycle phone books at Mokapu Elementary

Mokapu Elementary is participating in the recycling project of old phone books sponsored by Verizon.

School officials have asked that collected phone books be turned in and placed in front of the school cafeteria prior to Oct. 22 (“Pride Day”). Telephone book recycling saves trees, water, electricity, and valuable landfill space. Oahu schools can earn up to \$2,000 for participating during this contest period. Let’s teach our children that we can help protect our earth’s resources by recycling. If you have any question, call the Mokapu office at 254-7964.

Navy Cake Cutting Ceremony

A cake cutting ceremony for the 229th anniversary of the U.S. Navy will be held at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday at Dewey Square.

The honorable Gordon England, Secretary of the Navy will be the guest of honor.

MMOA Hawaii Visit

The Manpower Management Officer Assignments visit is scheduled for Tuesday through Thursday. Officer monitors will be available for individual interviews and counseling during the visit.

Hawaii Marine Seeks Reader Input

Do you, your unit or organization have a story idea? Do you have photographs (action shots), information or announcements about an upcoming event or activity? Would you like the *Hawaii Marine* to focus on a specific topic? Write to us at editor@hawaiimarine.com and let us know how we can best serve you.

Call the *Hawaii Marine* staff at 257-8836 or 257-8837 for more details.

CFC Drive Continues

The Combined Federal Campaign will run through Oct. 19. The mission of the CFC is to support and to promote philanthropy through a voluntary program that is employee-focused, cost-efficient and effective in providing all Federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all. Contact your unit representative for additional information.

CG Invites Input

The commanding general of MCB Hawaii would like to hear your comments regarding:

- What are we doing that we shouldn’t be doing?
- What are we not doing that we should be doing?
- What are we doing that we should be doing better?

Your responses should include a recommendation that will solve the problem.

E-mail your suggestions to the commanding general at CGMAIL@mcbh.usmc.mil.

If you don’t have an e-mail account, you can fax your suggestions to 257-3290, or you can mail them to:

Commanding General (Attn: CG Mail)
MCB Hawaii
Box 63002
MCB Kaneohe Bay, HI 96863-3002

Your suggestions can also be dropped off in person on base at the Adjutant’s office in building 216, room 1.

Marine Corps goes high tech

Administration integrates at K-Bay

Cpl. Megan L. Stiner
Combat Correspondent

As time goes by, technology, knowledge and information concerning the world we live in increases. The administrative personnel throughout the Marine Corps are making changes to keep service members up-to-date with today’s ever-changing way of life.

According to Marine Corps Order 5000.14D, the primary administrative goal of the Marine Corps is to increase

the quality of administrative support provided and to establish uniformity throughout all levels of administrative and personnel support.

Within the past month, administrative units aboard K-Bay have integrated into an Installation Personnel Administration Center, located at building 401.

Personnel from Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Air Facility and 3rd Radio Battalion have already

See IPAC, A-7



Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

The building formerly known as Dispersing is now home to the Installation Personnel Administration Center, or IPAC.

Master Gunnery Sgt. Billy D. Stewart

Commentary

There has been much scuttlebutt over the past few years that some Marines today just don’t pack the gear to carry on the proud traditions of our Corps. However, the experts at both recruiting regions state something different. I constantly hear remarks exclaiming the Corps is recruiting the best educated and qualified applicants to wear the eagle, globe, and anchor upon the completion of recruit training.

Still, there seems to be an underlying feeling young Marines of today are loose, undisciplined, and lack drive and dedication. Why is that? While there are many contributing factors, let me paint a picture for you that may present an interesting analogy. Put on your winter clothes and take a step back in time to grade school.

It was a cold mid-western day in central Illinois. A smooth white blanket covered the ground as the overcast sky teased of future snow flurries. As always, the young children quickly finished their sack lunches in the cafeteria and proceeded to the playground for about 45 minutes. The girls jumped rope,

played kickball and took their turns at making “snow angels.” Meanwhile, most of the boys quickly picked sides and began the daily game of touch football. While it usually resulted in much more than a “touch” game, each boy found this as a time of acceptance or rejection, based upon his skill level.

There were always a few boys that didn’t play sports, and did other things during recess. Some read books, while others watched the games being played. However, one boy always built things. This particular day, his project was to finish a snowman he had started earlier in the week. He was a great student who tried to excel in all he did. This mission was no different. As the football game progressed, the boy sculpted the snow figure. His plan was to leave it on the playground for all the students to enjoy and add to. Although he wasn’t interested in football, he knew building things for other students made him feel like a part of the team.

As recess neared its end, so did the young boy’s snowman.

trained and developed by dedicated Marine recruiters and drill instructors. They leave recruit training much like the snowman, basically developed. It is after “boot camp” when the young Leathernecks are ready to develop more of the traits, ethics, principles and habits that will complete them as Marines.

In the story, the rest of the class was supposed to provide the missing parts to complete the unfinished snowman. For the Marine, his/her leaders and peers are responsible to finish off where the recruiters and drill instructors left off. In the same sense, the snowman must have the cold environment to survive and flourish. Conversely, the young Marine cannot flourish in the wrong environment. Whether we realize it or not, just like the young children, often times we are destroying our Marines by both our inability to foster the correct environment and our lack of providing what the Marine needs to be complete. It all starts the day the Marine hits the “fleet.”

As young Leathernecks march across the parade decks of the Marine Corps Recruit Depots, one can see a transformation has taken place. The snowman has been built. Following a Marine’s Military Occupational Specialty School, the fork in the road soon appears and the destruction of the snowman begins. As they “check in” wearing their Service “Alpha” uniform, things begin to get confusing for young Marines. They are told in boot camp all Marines are squared away and professional. Soon they find out this is not always true.

Many truths come to light for the young Marines during their first week in the fleet. Unlike boot camp, the reality sets in that most Marines are not as squared away and professional as the Marines they were exposed to before and during boot camp. They see honor, courage and commitment is present, but not always paramount. Daily, they meet the array of sea lawyers that bad mouth the Marine Corps and tell them to forget all the boot camp “stuff” they were fed. Sadly, some of their corporals and sergeants enforce the standards about half of the time and are definitely not what they had expected in a Marine leader.

The Marines’ expectations are again crushed as they see one of their leaders get involved in an alcohol-related incident while on liberty. After physical training, the young Marines ask each other, “Why don’t the officers or staff noncommissioned officers ever lead our runs?” Finally, while walking to work, the Marines proudly salute a passing officer’s vehicle only to get ignored.

The foundation, just like the snowman, begins its descent to the ground. Like the young boy, soon the Marines give up and join the Corps to which they have been exposed.

While these examples represent extreme cases, they ring true too often. I’m sure there has been some aspect of your expectations

See SNOWMAN, A-7

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Sports Editor

The world of information technology has made advancements in leaps and bounds over the last decade, and the Marine Corps has consistently been able to adapt to these changes.

According to the Manpower Information Systems Support Office, some of the more recent advancements have occurred on the Marine Online Web site, www.mol.usmc.mil, otherwise known as the Bundled Capabilities Package.

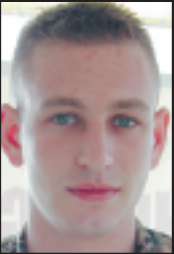
The original release of BCP 0 was in 2002, when personnel were first given the capability to update a broad range of information - including emergency data, religious preference, gas mask size, home and work telephone numbers and home address — which was all contained in the Total Force Administrative System.

At the beginning of 2004, the Marine Corps made an official update to Marine Online, which was referred to as BCP-1. The new addition to Marine Online helped Marines track the progress of leave requests, proficiency and

COMMENTARY

Word on the street

“What would you like to see more of in the *Hawaii Marine*?”



Pfc. Benjamin Crossman
Military Police Officer
Provost Marshals Office,
Camp H.M. Smith

“I’d like to see more stories about Camp Smith.”



Lance Cpl. Chris Patrick
Electronics Technician
3rd Radio Battalion

“We should have more base sports in the paper, like football and baseball.”



Judy Ellis
Family member

“I always like to know about any upcoming events, like craft shows. That is what will peak my interest.”



Sgt. Isaac Aguilar
Collections Chief
3rd Radio Battalion

“You should write more about the opinions of the Marines. That is what should be important.”



Stephanie Aguilar
Family member

“I’d like to see more about what is available for families, like activities for our children. I never know when they start.”

Hawaii MARINE

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Cpl. Megan L. Stiner
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FAX: 257-1289, PHONE: 257-8836

Fast - roping

Headquarters Battalion steps up training to become combat ready

**Story and Photos By
Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson**
Media Chief

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii — A total of 43 Marines from MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay and Camp H.M. Smith gathered at the rapel and fast rope tower here Sept. 30.

"It was a collaborative decision between the battalion commanding officer and the S-3 to begin giving the Marines of Headquarters Battalion training that extends from their normal annual qualifications," said Staff Sgt. Eduardo Minaya, HQBN training chief. "A lot of the Marines haven't done training like today's since boot camp. If they only do it once, they forget in time."

The rain poured all day, but that didn't deter the Marines from listening intently to the instructions of Staff Sgt. Erik Stone, 4th Force Reconnaissance, and Sgt. Tuan Tran, an instructor for regimental schools, prior to and during the training.

"I was really impressed with how the Marines performed out there all day," said Minaya. "I didn't expect that many Marines to show up, and now I hope that even more will show up in the future."

This is the second training evolution these Marines have participated in so far. Land navigation was taught last week, but the group that trained for that first event was smaller.

"With the amount of people that showed up this time for training, it shows that the word is getting out there," said Minaya. "A good amount of Marines from Camp Smith were there as well."

After a quick refresher course, the Marines descended from heights of 60 feet, first rappelling, then fast roping, while keeping their wits about them the whole time and maintaining awareness of possible dangers.



"I had a little trouble at first on the rappel tower since I didn't remember to keep my legs straight when first coming off the side of the wall," said Lance Cpl. Regina Shelley, a scopist for legal, HQBN. "I gained control quickly after listening to the instructor at the top and the rest went really smoothly."

The main reason for the extra training is every Marine should be prepared to go to war, said Maj. Kevin McCollough, S-3 officer, HQBN.

"The intent of the commanding officer is to prepare all his Marines for combat," said

McCollough. "Every Marine is a rifleman first, no matter what their MOS may be, and they should train like that."

In the future, training involving patrolling, the Military Operations on Urban Terrain facility, grenade range and firing crew-service weapons is in the works.

"This training also motivates the Marines to get their annual training done," said McCollough. "Next week they are spy-rigging, but will not be allowed to unless they have completed their Basic Skills Test for the year."

Minaya said he hopes training can soon be held overnight and that participation will only increase.

"All of this training is going to be eventually put together so the Marines can make assaults and provide security for an area successfully," said Minaya. "We know HQBN has a hard time always being able to spare Marines for training, but we hope they see the big picture and importance that this training holds. Not only is it essential in a time like this, but it gives the Marine an added level of motivation and confidence to be a great leader."

Top and below — After last week's land navigation training, HQBN Marines were ready to tackle rappelling and fast roping down a 60-foot tower.

Inset — A Headquarters Battalion Marine descends from the 60-foot tower during the fastroping portion of training.



Right — Lance Cpl. Shirley Rodriguez, postal clerk, HQBN, gets medical attention after falling from the rope when releasing it too quickly.



Capt. Michael Habba, commanding officer, Headquarters and Service Company, descends from the rappel tower at Schofield Barracks Sept. 30 as part of the battalion's campaign to become more combat ready.

‘America’s Battalion’ returns

3/3 Warriors cheered by former members

Story and Photos By
Pfc. Rich Mattingly

Combat Correspondent

The end of the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment’s training at Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, Calif., was marked by a visit from a well-written alumni, retired Lt. Col. Otto Lehrack and several other veterans of the Vietnam conflict who served with America’s Battalion.

The veterans greeted the Marines at MWTC’s hangar, the morning after they returned from their final, battalion field exercise that had the leathernecks moving from the high altitude of Landing Zone Albatross through rugged, mountain terrain and bitterly cold temperatures into an “Afghani” village for a cordon and search operation.

“I know it sounds cliché,” said Bruce Devert, a former rifleman with 3/3 during Vietnam, speaking to the assembly, “but it really is a deep honor to be able to be here with you today.”

Many of the veterans were full of emotion, recounting memories and describing what it felt like to be part of “the greatest battalion in the World’s Greatest Fighting Force.”

“What you will be doing will be the most important thing you will ever do,” said Lehrack, alluding to America’s current Global War on Terrorism. “This war is the most important conflict since the Second World War.”

The former leathernecks all shared with the gathered Marines lessons they learned on the battlefield and what they should remember when they deploy later this year.

Michael Harrington told the Marines they should certainly remember to write home and keep tabs on their family.

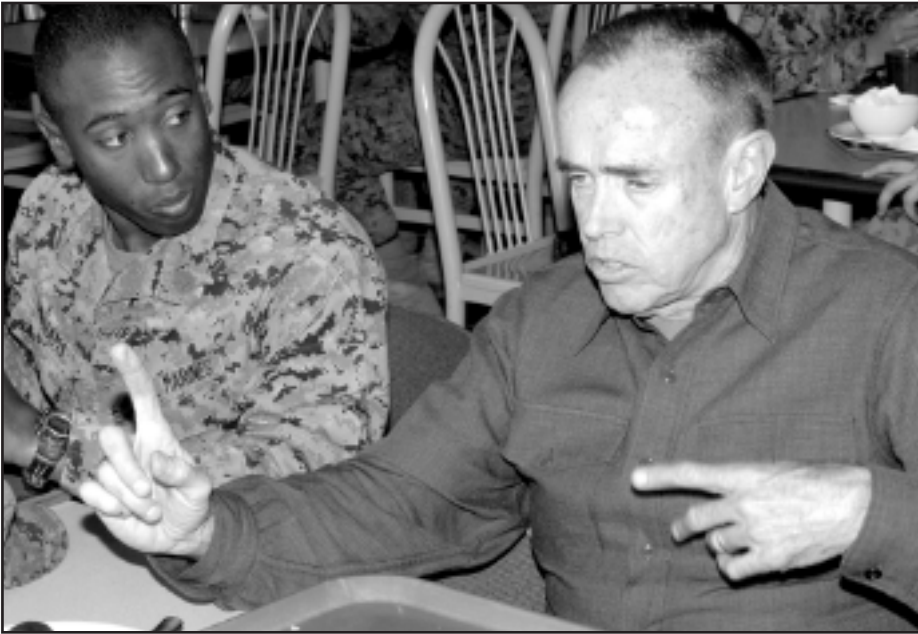
After the formation, several of the Marines of 3/3’s past shared more stories and advice over a “Warrior’s Dinner,” that had been prepared for them by the food service Marines of MWTC and 3/3. Steak and shrimp and the subtle relief of another exercise ending safely and productively mixed with the stories of Dan Ryan, Harrington and Ron Cislo.

Lehrack, who has written two books about 3/3 and the Marine Corps’ involvement in Vietnam will publish a third book titled simply “America’s Battalion,” early next year. The text will cover 3/3’s participation in Operation Desert Storm. The author also hopes to record the experiences of the battalion in Afghanistan and compile them into another text.

America’s Battalion completed training and returned to Hawaii over the weekend.



Above — Staff Sgt. Joshua Wruble, Operations Chief, 3/3, surveys the way ahead for the combat operations center during the battalion’s Field Training Exercise at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif.



Far left — Dan Ryan, former 3/3 Marine, regales Marines with tails of the unit’s action in Vietnam.



Left — Cpl. Paul Edwards, field radio operator with 3/3, monitors the net during a field exercise.



Marines from 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment gather at Hickam AFB in Honolulu after returning from pre-deployment training exercises in California. “America’s Battalion” spent the last month “sharpening the tip of the spear” with combined arms exercises and maneuvers in mountainous terrain in preparation for a deployment to Afghanistan.



Pfc. Rich Mattingly

Even when deployed as a rifleman, Sgt. Shelvin Jackson finds time to take care of his Marines. Jackson has been spending more and more time in the field and less in the mess hall as he prepares to be an infantryman during 3/3's upcoming deployment to the Middle East.

Out of the frying pan, into the firefight

Pfc. Rich Mattingly
Combat Correspondent

CAMP WILSON, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. — The old vernacular phrase, “too many chefs in the kitchen,” must have been on his mind when he first examined the situation.

Third Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment’s Battalion Mess Chief, Gunnery Sgt. Joseph Yantosca, had just met with a site survey team from an area for which “America’s Battalion” might soon be responsible. Whatever his first thoughts, he certainly knew another phrase would soon apply directly to his Marines: “Every Marine a rifleman.”

Due to the Department of Defense’s moves toward outsourcing jobs to civilian contractors in the United States Central Command’s Area of Responsibility, Marines in occupational specialties, such as food services, are frequently finding themselves cross-training into the infantry.

Yantosca said he knew his own mission would have to drastically change to maximize the benefits his battalion could get from his Marines.

As America’s Battalion continued to train in California for an upcoming contingency deployment, food service specialists left the routine of Anderson Mess Hall aboard MCB Hawaii far behind. This time, their training involved more bullets than beans and more fighting holes than frying pans.

Yantosca has sent three of his Marines to each of 3/3’s line companies, one noncommissioned officer and two junior Marines to

function as a fire team within a squad. If the Marines have no specific food service mission while in the field, they will function as riflemen.

“It’s happened before. Food Services is a battlefield occupational specialty, and cooks have always been attached to fighting units,” said Yantosca.

Rather than be rattled by the changes in their place of work and tools of the trade, the food service Marines of America’s Battalion are excited about their new role. They’ve been training long and hard, both with their new units and with each other.

“I was excited — I wanted to play this role as soon as we started training,” said Lance Cpl. Manuel Tinajero Jr., food service specialist, America’s Battalion.

“I think it’s a great thing,” added Cpl. William Mitchell, food service specialist. “The Battalion has been training all of us just the same. After going through this training, I feel much more prepared. As a corporal with an ‘03’ squad, I’ve got to learn things that much faster. There’s no time to play around.”

Mitchell also said he thought the transition really wouldn’t be too difficult for the food service Marines whom he said are already used to getting to work hours before daybreak and putting in long, difficult hours.

Behind Camp Wilson’s field mess, the Marines patrolled and practiced immediate action drills long after their regular kitchen

duties had ended.

When asked, the food service specialists aren’t at all worried about their occupational specialty disappearing.

“It doesn’t threaten our MOS at all,” explained Yantosca. “The Marine Corps will always need food service Marines to go out to the field and feed the troops.”

Napoleon once said, “An army fights on its stomach,” referring to a fighting force’s need for good chow to stay fully in the fight. Food service specialists with 3/3 may understand another side to that quote now that they are joining the line companies.

Perhaps only the Marine Corps, of any fighting force in the world, could ask troops to make these changes and be confident they were sending properly trained and competent Marines into battle.



Pfc. Rich Mattingly

Sgt. Kirk Pusey provides security for his squad during immediate actions drills behind the field mess at Camp Wilson, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif. Pusey is preparing to transition from food service specialist to rifleman.

MarForPac gains from Survival Systems

Cpl. Megan L. Stiner
Combat Correspondent

When boarding a helicopter, the necessary gear for passengers’ survival in the event of the aircraft going down over water is provided, but only to those carrying a certain card. The little piece of paper needed for the gear issue states that certification with the Life

Preserver Unit 32P life vest and the Individual Personnel Helicopter Aircrew Breathing Device was received, and the carrier knows how to use them. Marines and Sailors can achieve certification for these items by going through a three-day Over Watercraft Survival Training Course at the base pool. The course includes seven hours of classroom lecture time and 12 hours of practi-

cal application training in the pool. “The course is designed to increase survivability of passengers in an aircraft ditching in the water,” said Mike C. Davis, manager of Survival Systems Hawaii. Survival Systems is a civilian-contracted corporation that works on four Marine Corps bases around the world, certifying service members with the necessary gear and knowl-

edge in case of a helicopter accident over water. Marine Forces Pacific is the major benefactor from the organization. It is home to three of the four bases: Camp Pendleton, Calif.; Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan and here. The fourth base is MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., which is also the only base not equipped with Modular Amphibious Egress Trainer. The MAET is a helicopter simulated disorientation trainer. It looks like the body of a helicopter and is capable of being submersed into water and spinning upside down to simulate a real helicopter crash.

Service members going through the course receive training in both the MAET as well as Shallow Water Egress Trainer chairs, which are similar to the MAET, except they are for individual practice and used in a more procedural method. “Students work their way up from the SWET chairs to the MAET,” said Davis. “Once they are comfortable in the chairs, they move on to the more difficult training the MAET offers.” Students will experience the SWET chairs two separate times, once for the initial training and another time for a compressed air portion of training. Then they move on to the MAET, also twice, once after the initial SWET chair training, and then another time for the more advanced compressed air practical application. The compressed air device, also known as an air bottle, is difficult for some students to learn how to use, because they are required to breath through a tube in their mouths without a water mask. “You are taught to breath through your nose all your life,” explained Davis. “In this situation you have to reverse that method and breath with only your mouth.” Eleven different members conduct the training. “The staff is very good at what they do,” said Davis. “We have never had a death in the two years we have worked with the Marine Corps. There are always safety divers in the water and it is definitely a main priority to keep the people safe.” The course is open to all DoD personnel and the classes are offered twice a week with 20 students in each course. There is currently no waiting list for this training. For more information on the course, contact Mike Davis at 358-4255 or e-mail him at mdavis@survivalsystemsinc.com.



Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

Marines and Sailors can attain certification with the Life Preserver Unit 32P life vest and the Individual Personnel Helicopter Aircrew Breathing Device by attending a three-day Over Watercraft Survival Training Course at the base pool.

MOTORS, From A-1

this change fully takes effect,” said Aivao. “At Base Motors now, we have a 24-hour vehicle dispatcher, that is there to sign out vehicles to personnel, because we all know that things don’t always happen during regular working hours.”

Aivao said they have V.I.P. runs that aren’t always planned and they are able to tackle any situation that arises.

As with any transition, bumps are expected.

“When the civilians take over, what will happen to the liberty bus program? What will happen when a V.I.P. run pops up and they don’t have the personnel to support it? What will happen after business hours when someone needs to check out a vehicle and there is no one available to help because they have all gone home for the day?” asked Aivao.

FAPS, From A-1

ing there is a lot more to their job than what meets the eye.

“It can be difficult when someone gets out of hand and you have to apprehend another Marine or Sailor,” said Cherry, “but that is a great part of this job, you never know what to expect.”

Although they are under constant supervision from experienced gate sentries, the FAP Marines receive a lot of no-assistance, hands-on practical application.

“At times, the more experienced Marines just stand there and watch us make mistakes,

but that can be a good thing,” explained Cherry. “There are some things that are better learned when you make your own mistakes, but I am pretty confident in what I am doing.”

According to Cherry, the most demanding aspect of standing gate sentry is the number of hours the service members are required to work.

“I report in at 4:30 a.m. and sometimes I am not done for the day until after 7 p.m.,” he said.

“It gets frustrating when people give us a hard time and we are just trying to do our job,” said Cherry. “We are here for the people on K-Bay.”



Lance Cpl. Bernadette L. Ainsworth

The Navy’s precision flying team, the Blue Angels, arrived at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Tuesday. Before landing, the Blue Angels showed off their skills by flying over the flight line in formation. The Blue Angels will be one of many performers at this weekend’s Air Show. The gates will open at 10 a.m. and the show will being at 11:45 a.m. both Saturday and Sunday.

ANGELS, From A-1

Stallion and UH-1H Huey Helicopters; KC-135 Stratotanker and KC-130

Hercules carrier planes; and the C-5 Galaxy.

The gates to the show will open at 10 a.m. and the show begins both days at

11:45 a.m. Parking and admission to the shows are free.

This air show is the first at the Marine Corps base in more than 20 years.

Blue Angels
Schedule of Events

Gates open at 10 a.m. Show starts at 11:45 a.m. each day.

- Opening Ceremony
- US Navy Seal Parachute Jump
- F-15 Fly By
- Eric Beard & the Russian Thunder
- F-16 Demo Team
- Hank Bruckner, flying the Cap 10
- SH-60 Demonstration
- Greg Poe, flying the Edge 540
- C-17 Demo Team
- Clint Churchill in the Extra 300s
- U.S. Coast Guard HH-65 and C-130 Demonstrations
- F-15 Demonstration
- Patty Wagstaff, flying the Goodrich Extra 300s
- P-3 Demo and Military Capabilities Demo
- Blue Angels Demo Team

Schedule is subject to change.

IPAC, From A-2

moved into a joint center. Within the next year, personnel from Camp Smith, Combat Service Support Group 3 and 3rd Marine Regiment are expected to integrate as well.

This change is intended to create an atmosphere where the staff can share information and generate a more effective and consistent way of providing quality service to the personnel aboard K-Bay.

“The vision of personnel administration is to consolidate at the next level,” said Chief Warrant Officer-4 Peter Swainson, IPAC.

According to Swainson, the integration saves money by

decreasing the number of personnel needed to perform the same jobs when the units were in separate buildings and locations.

Marine Corps Order 5000.14D also states one of the fundamental responsibilities incumbent upon Marine Corps leaders is ensuring the prompt, precise reporting and maintenance of the information that comprises the official records of the Marines under their charge.

Administrative personnel aboard K-Bay believe the changes will better the service and knowledge the administration center has to offer, and have therefore begun consolidation for the benefit of the community.

SNOWMAN, From A-2

and foundation destroyed by the grim reality you were exposed to early in your career. However, the bigger question to ponder is, are you adding to a Marine’s foundation, or destroying it?

Many Marines ask why the young Marines of today are not living up to expectations. In contrast, we should ask ourselves if we are living up to the young Marine’s expectations. Let’s do what Marines do and finish the snowman we started. Semper Fi.

MOL, From A-2

BCP-1 Phase II, was introduced. This new step allows personnel to access commanders’ messaging, track progress of permissive temporary assigned duty, request and track special liberty, use and change the table of organization for members.

“By September next year, everyone will have to be at least activated for Marine Online. It won’t be an option anymore, it will be a requirement,” said Jones. “But, Marines need to realize that this new Marine Online is not only for administration, it is for all

Marines — at either home or work.”

According to Gunnery Sgt. Scott L. Schuster, a SNCOIC at MISSO, the new Marine Online will even make the steps for annual leave simpler. Marines can fill out a request online, and select an approver who is responsible for them and their chain of command. The request will then be immediately forwarded electronically.

Once the leave is approved, no leave papers are required. Staff non-commissioned officers can check-out online, but sergeants and below still need to check-out with the Staff Duty Officer. The same process applies when

returning from leave.

Leave papers can still be printed out for those who require a copy for travel. Marines can print the leave papers from any computer, anywhere in the country, and no “wet” signature is required.

MISSO will be offering a class every Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Learning Resource Center in building 221. The classes are open to all Marines, and civilians with accounts, and no appointments are necessary.

For more information, contact the Manpower Information Systems Support Office at 257-0780.